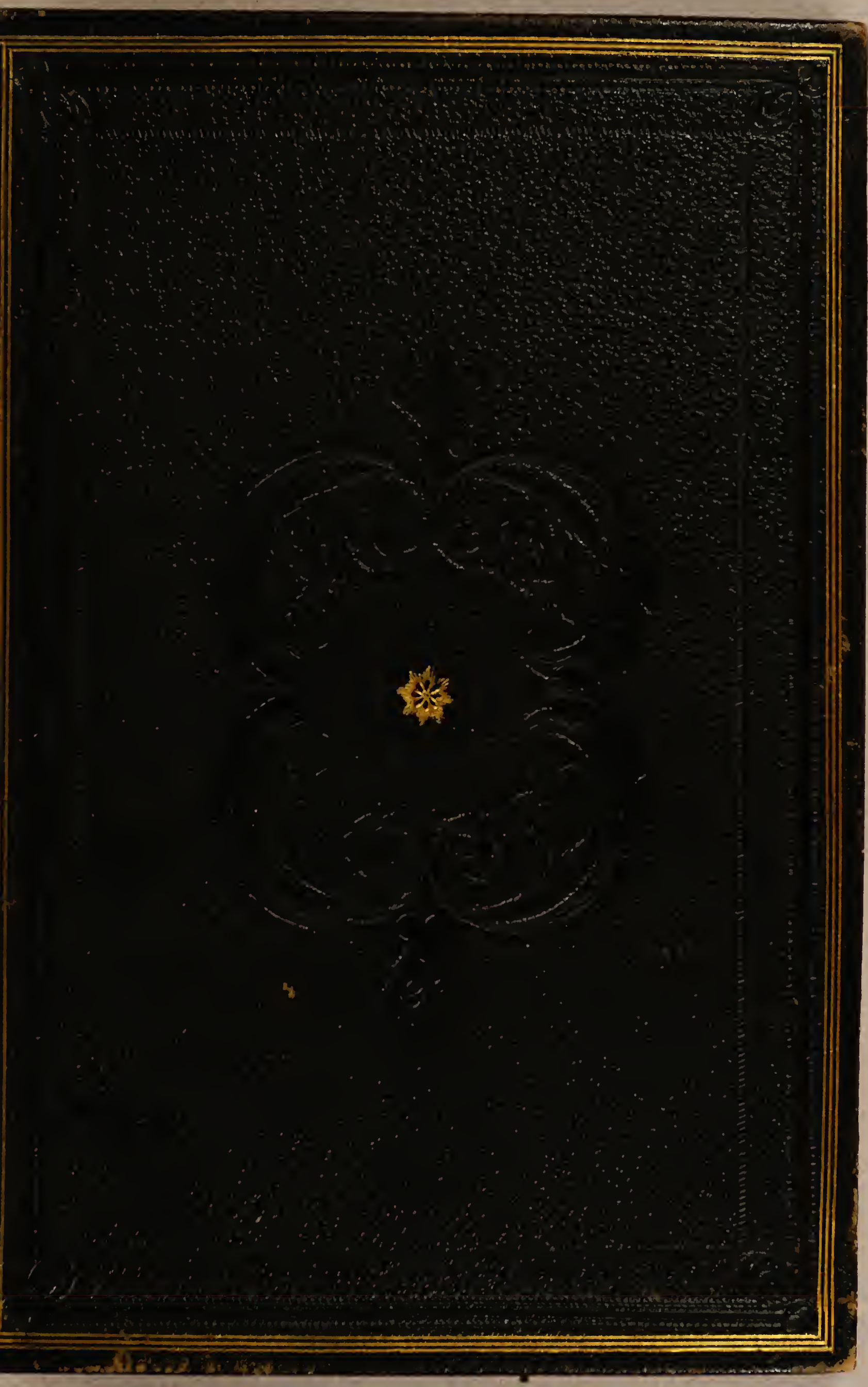

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THE MELANCHOLY NARRATIVE OF THE DISTRESSFUL VOYAGE AND MIRACULOUS DELIVERANCE OF Captain *David Harriſon*, OF THE SLOOP, *PEGGY*, OF NEW-YORK, on his Voyage from FYAL, one of the Weſtern Iſlands, to NEW-YORK,

WHO

Having loſt all his Sails in a long Series of hard Weather, and entirely exhauſted his Proviſions, lived two and forty Days without receiving the leaſt Food, till he was happily relieved by the Humanity of Capt EVERS of the *Suſanna*, in the *Virginia* Trade.—In this Narrative the Expedients which Capt. HARRISON and his Men made Uſe of for their Subſiſtence are particularly ſet forth, who twice caſt Lots for their Lives, and were to have killed the ſecond Man on the very Morning they were providentially taken up.—The Whole being authenticated in the ſtrongeſt Manner, by repeated Depoſitions,

BEFORE THE

Right Hon. *GEORGE NELSON*, Eſq.
Lord-Mayor of the City of LONDON,

AND

Mr. *ROBERT SHANK*, Notary Public.

WRITTEN BY HIMSELF.

LONDON,

Printed for JAMES HARRISON, oppoſite STATIONERS' HALL, LUDGATE-STREET.

M DCC LXVI.

RPJCB

THE
MELANCHOLY NARRATIVE
OF THE
DISTRESSFUL VOYAGE
AND
MIRACULOUS DELIVERANCE
OF
Captain *David Harriſon.*

THE occurrences of my late unfortunate voyage, are of a nature ſo extraordinary, and my preſervation is a circumſtance ſo miraculous, that, ſenſible as I am at preſent of the Divine goodneſs, it would look like a want of gratitude to the great diſpoſer of all things, if I neglected to employ a few hours in the recital of ſome particulars, where his Providence has been ſingularly

manifeſted, and where he has given an inconteſtible leſſon to all his creatures, to dread the impiety of deſpair, ſince his aſſiſtance may be neareſt at hand when they are leaſt in expectation of relief.

THE ſolemnity of this ſentiment will not, I hope, terrify a reader of elegance from the peruſal of the following pages. — Thoſe who read for mere amuſement, will probably find ſomething to entertain them, unleſs they are too refined to put up in real diſtreſs with thoſe circumſtances which would poſſibly yield them moſt ſatisfaction in a work of mere imagination, — while thoſe who are actuated by a more ſerious turn, will poſſibly exclaim in the exalted language of the Pſalmiſt, "How wonderful are the works of the "Lord, how great in wiſdom all."

WITHOUT farther preface, I weighed anchor at NEW-YORK, on the 25th of Auguſt,

Auguſt, 1765, and came to ſail from SANDY HOOK on the 27th with a cargo conſiſting of lumber, ſtaves, bees-wax, fiſh, &c. and proceeded on my intended voyage, with a ſmall breeze of wind, at S. S. W. — Nothing remarkable occurred on the outward bound part of my paſſage, and arrived ſafe at FYAL on the 5th of October following—where I immediately addreſſed myſelf to the Britiſh conſul at that place, Mr. Richard Gathorne, and his partner, Mr. Alexander Graham, purſuant to my inſtructions, and after clearing my ſhip in the cuſtomary mercantile courſe, I got a cargo of wine, brandy, &c. for NEW-YORK, by the 22d of October, which I had no ſooner completed, than I went immediately on ſhore for my letters and diſpatches; apprehenſive of the conſequences of coming on the coaſt of AMERICA, in a ſingle deck veſſel, in the winter ſeaſon, a time in which theſe ſeas are uncommonly dangerous.

EVERY thing being ready by the 24th, — I ſet ſail about half after eleven in the morning from FYAL, with a fine breeze of wind at S. E. and at ſix o'clock in the evening the body of the iſland bearing from me North, three leagues, I loſt ſight of land, and began to flatter myſelf with the hopes of a very expeditious voyage. On the 29th, however matters put on quite a different aſpect; the wind blowing pretty freſh, my ſtanding jib, a very old one indeed, was ſplit, and as we had no other on board, we unbent and put it into as good a condition as the nature of our circumſtances would admit. — The violence of the weather ſtill continuing, we went under an eaſy ſail, a double-reefed main-ſail and jib. — Nevertheleſs on Wedneſday the 6th of November, two pair of my foremoſt main-ſhrouds, on the larboard ſide, were carried away, being old and unable to reſiſt the ſeverity of the weather. — On this we immediately ſet

up

up ſtoppers; and got a runner and tackle as a ſupport to the maſt; lying too under a ballanced mainſail, as it blew extremely hard. — The next day the wind ſhifting to the W. N. W. and blowing more violently, we wore ſhip, and laid her head to the Southward; but about eight o'clock in the morning, my two fore main ſhrouds, on the ſtarboard ſide, were carried away, which obliged us to get up another runner and tackle for the additional ſecurity of the maſt. — Till the 12th of November, the weather was intolerably bad, the ſeas exceſſively heavy, and the continued peals of thunder joined to our incapacity of carrying any ſail, unleſs for a few hours, threw a horror over our ſituation, which is not to be conceived by any but thoſe who have unhappily experienced ſomething like our circumſtances.

On Tueſday, the 12th of November, the weather ſeemed more moderate, though the

the change did not carry the appearance of any great duration; and, indeed, next day, to our unſpeakable mortification, it came on to blow as hard as ever at W. N. W. ſo that my fore-ſtay and fore-ſheets were not only torn away, but the fore-ſail itſelf rent in pieces; and what added conſiderably to the loſs, was my not having any other to put in it's place.—In this ſituation we lay too, as before, under a ballanced reefed main-ſail, the impetuoſity of the ſtorm ſtill continuing, and the ſeas rolling mountains high, all of us expecting that the veſſel would prove leaky, as ſhe ſtrained inconceivably hard.

SCUDDING away, however, on the 16th or 17th, under the ſquare ſail head, about two in the morning, the tack unfortunately happening to give way, this ſail was torn all to tatters, ſo that we were obliged to cut it from the yard, and to heave too immediately under bare poles till the main-

ſail

ſail was ballanced reefed.—One misfortune is generally the forerunner of another ; at leaſt we found it ſo ; for while we lay too in the ſame gale of wind, which deſtroyed our ſquare ſail, the flying jib blew overboard, from a new ſet of points, although it was a new ſail, and made of top-gallant duck. — Notwithſtanding all theſe accidents, we made ſome little way, at intervals, under an eaſy ſail, till the 1ſt of December, when being attacked by another violent gale, in the latitude of 40 d. 1 m. North, and longitude 58 d. 37 m. Weſt from LONDON, a dreadful ſea broke two of my main chain-plates, and ſhattered my fore-ſail to ſuch a degree, as rendered it utterly unſerviceable. — The only bit of canvaſs now left, was the main-ſail, which we backed and lay too, having no proſpect whatever before us but what was pregnant with the bittereſt diſtreſs ; for the conflict which our veſſel had ſo long

maintained

maintained againſt waves and winds, had, by this time, occaſioned her to leak exceſſively; and our proviſions were ſo much exhauſted, that we found it abſolutely neceſſary to come to an immediate allowance of two pounds of bread a week, for each perſon, beſides a quart of water, and a pint of wine a day. — The alternative was really deplorable, between the ſhortneſs of our proviſions, and the wreck of our ſhip. If we contrived to keep the latter from ſinking, we were in danger of periſhing with hunger, and if we contrived to ſpin out the former with a rigid perſeverance of œconomy for any time, there was but little probability of being able to preſerve our ſhip, — thus, on either hand, little leſs than a miracle could ſave us from inevitable deſtruction; if we had an accidental gleam of comfort on one hand, the fate with which the other ſo viſibly teemed, gave an inſtant check to our ſatisfaction, and obſcured every

riſing

riſing ray of hope, with an inſtant cloud of horror and deſpair.

We met, indeed, a couple of veſſels, one from Jamaica for London, and another to Dublin, from New-York, who would have probably relieved us, had there been a poſſibility in ſo ſevere a gale, to open any cummunication from ſhip to ſhip; all they could do was to ſpeak to us, a circumſtance which the reader's own imagination muſt naturally ſuppoſe did not a little add to the miſery of our ſituation. — Diſappointed of ſuccour in this quarter, I was under a neceſſity of contracting the little allowance which had been lately ſettled for each man; and continued gradually leſſening the quantity of proviſions, till every morſel was entirely exhauſted, and not above two gallons of dirty water remaining in the bottom of a caſk. My poor fellows, who from inceſſant fatigue, and a long want of neceſſaries, were now

reduced to a very weakly condition, began at laſt to grow impatient, and ſeized on the cargo, naturally enough obſerving that the wine and brandy were the only things they had now remaining in the world; and that I muſt not be ſurprized if they made very free with both, for their ſupport. — I could neither be ſorry nor ſurprized at this motion. — What gave me concern was, the continual exceſs to which they drank — and the continual courſe of execration and blaſphemy, which was occaſioned by that exceſs. — For my own part, I abſtained, as much as poſſible, from wine, and very gladly huſbanded the dregs of the water caſk, which afterwards proved of infinite ſervice to me, and may be not improperly reckoned an eſſential means of my ſurviving a complication of the moſt affecting calamities.

Our veſſel had been for ſome time toſſed about, at the mercy of the winds

and

and waves, when in the midſt of our deſpair, we were ſuddenly tranſported with the moſt extravagant ſenſations of joy, by the diſcovery of a ſail to the leeward, the 25th of December, in the morning. — Diſtreſs generally inſpires the human mind with lively ſentiments of devotion, and thoſe, who, perhaps, diſpute or diſregard the exiſtence of a Deity at other times, are ready enough, in the day of adverſity, to think every advantageous turn in their affairs a particular exertion of the Divine benignity.— It was, therefore, but natural for ſome of the people to think that the 25th of December was appointed for their preſervation, in a temporal ſenſe, as much as in a ſpiritual view it was appointed to be the means of their future felicity. — Our thankſgivings, however, to Providence, though profoundly ſincere, were not offered in any great form. We all crouded upon deck; and hung out, with our utmoſt expedition, a proper ſignal of

diſtreſs; and, about eleven o'clock, had the unſpeakable ſatisfaction, to come near enough to the ſhip to engage her in converſation, to inform her of our diſtreſſes; and to obtain from the captain an aſſurance of relief. — Indeed the promiſed relief was but ſmall, nevertheleſs, the ſmalleſt to people in our circumſtances, was ineſtimable. It was to be nothing more than a little bread, which was all, as the captain aſſured me, that he could ſpare, as he himſelf was contracted in every other article. — This, however, he ſaid we ſhould have, as ſoon as he had finiſhed an obſervation which he was taking, for it was now near twelve o'clock. — Having no doubt, in nature, but the captain would punctually perform his promiſe, I retired to reſt myſelf in the cabbin, being much emaciated with faſting and fatigue; and labouring, at the ſame time, not only under a very dreadful flux, but a ſevere rheumatiſm in my right knee; my ſight alſo was conſiderably

ſiderably impaired, ſo that, upon the whole, I exhibited as ſtriking a picture of miſery as could poſſibly be painted to the eye of imagination.

I HAD not been many minutes in the cabbin, when my people came running down, with looks of unutterable deſpair, and informed me, in accents ſcarce intelligible, that the veſſel was making from us as faſt as ſhe could, and that there was nothing now left for us but inevitable deſtruction. — I crawled up to the deck, at this terrible intimation, with all the expedition I was maſter of, and found, to my inexpreſſible affliction, that their account was but too true. — The captain had taken the reefs out of his topſails and mainſail, and, in leſs than five hours, having a fine breeze in his favour, was entirely out of ſight. — As long as my poor fellows could retain the leaſt trace of him they hung about the ſhrouds, or ran in a ſtate of abſolute phrenzy from one part of

the

the ſhip to the other, to collect ſtill more viſible ſignals of diſtreſs, — they pierced the air with their cries, encreaſing in their lamentations as he leſſened upon their view, and ſtraining their very eye-balls to preſerve him in ſight, through a deſpairing hope that ſome dawning impulſe of pity would yet induce him to commiſerate our ſituation, and lead him to ſtretch out the bleſſed hand of relief. — But, alas! to what purpoſe did we exhauſt our little ſtrength in ſupplicating for compaſſion, or aggravate our own misfortunes with a fruitleſs expectation of ſuch a change. — The inexorable captain purſued his courſe without regarding us, and ſteel'd, as he undoubtedly muſt be, to every ſentiment of nature and humanity, poſſibly, valued himſelf not a little upon his dexterity in caſting us off. — Notwithſtanding I muſt feel an everlaſting indignation againſt this barbarous man, for flattering people in our circumſtances, with promiſes which he never meant to fulfil, I ſhall not hang him

up

up to univerſal deteſtation or infamy, by communicating his name to the reader;— if he is capable of reflexion his own conſcience muſt ſufficiently avenge my cauſe; and God grant that the pungency of that conſcience may be my only avenger. — One inſtance of his cruelty I muſt not forbear to mention.—At our firſt meeting I told him, neither I nor any of my men would deſire a ſingle morſel of his proviſions, provided he only took us out of our own wreck, in which we were every moment expoſed to the mercy of the waves, as our leaks were continually encreaſing, and the men declining in their ſtrength in proportion as the neceſſity grew urgent to employ them at the pumps. — This requeſt he abſolutely refuſed; though the indulgence of it might, in any ſucceeding diſtreſs, have done him an eſſential ſervice, and could not poſſibly expoſe him to the leaſt inconvenience.

My people being thus unhappily cut off from all aſſiſtance, where they were ſo fully perſuaded of meeting with an inſtant relief, became now as much dejected with their diſappointment as they grew formerly tranſported with their joy. — A deſperate kind of gloom ſat upon every face, which ſeemed regardleſs of the horror that was continually expected to burſt upon our heads, at the ſame time that it indicated a determination to put off the fatal moment to the utmoſt verge of poſſibility: actuated, therefore, by a reſolution of holding out as long as we were able, we turned our thoughts upon a pair of pigeons and a cat, which we had not yet deſtroyed, and which were the only living animals on board beſides ourſelves. — The pigeons we killed for our Chriſtmas dinner, and the day following made away with our cat, caſting lots for the ſeveral parts of the poor creature, as there were no leſs than nine of us to partake of the repaſt. — The

head

head fell to my ſhare, and, in all my days, I never feaſted on any thing which appeared ſo delicious to my appetite, — the piercing ſharpneſs of neceſſity had entirely conquered my averſion to ſuch food; and the rage of an incredible hunger rendered that an exquiſite regale, which, on any other occaſion, I muſt have loathed with the moſt inſuperable diſguſt. — After the cat was entirely conſumed, my people began to ſcrape the barnicles from the ſhip's bottom; but the relief afforded from this expedient was extremely trivial, as the waves had beaten off the greateſt number that were above water, and the men were infinitely too weak to hang over the ſhip's ſide to gather them; their continued intoxication, however, ſeemed, in ſome meaſure, to keep up their ſpirits, though it haſtened the deſtruction of their health, and every dawn of reflexion was carried off in a ſtorm of blaſphemy and execration.

For my own part I imbibed the ſtrongeſt averſion imaginable to wine; the complicated diſorders under which I laboured induced me to abſtain from it at firſt, and, as the men were perpetually heating it in the ſteerage the ſmell of it became offenſive to the laſt degree; ſo that I ſubſiſted entirely on the dirty water which they had forſaken, half a pint of which, together with a few drops of Turlington's balſam being my whole allowance for four and twenty hours. — In this ſituation I patiently expected that deſtiny which I thought it utterly impoſſibly to avoid; and had it not been for the pangs which I felt on account of my wife and family, I ſhould have longed for the moment of diſſolution, and rejoiced at the approach of that awful period which was to put an end to all my misfortunes.

When the reader comes to conſider our total want of neceſſaries, that my veſſel

veſſel had been for ſome time leaky, that I myſelf was emaciated with ſickneſs, and had but one ſail in the world to direct her; when he conſiders that the men were either too weak, or too much intoxicated to pay a neceſſary attention to the pump; when he likewiſe conſiders the ſeverity of the ſeaſon, that it blew "*black December*," as Shakeſpeare phraſes it, and is told that we had not an inch of candle, nor a morſel of fluſh to make any, having long ſince eaten up every appearance of either which could be found; when the reader comes to conſider all theſe things, and is, moreover, informed, that the general diſtreſs had deprived me of all command on board my own ſhip, he will ſcarcely ſuppoſe that I could ſuſtain any new misfortune; — yet, ſuch was the ſeverity of my deſtiny, that on the 28th of December (being then driven as far to the northward, by a ſeries of ſoutherly winds, as 41 or 42 North Latitude) I was overtaken by a moſt dreadful

ſtorm at N. W. by N. and N. W. and had my only remaining bit of canvaſs, the main-ſail, torn entirely away, ſo that I was now become a wreck in the fulleſt ſenſe of the expreſſion, — and death became ſo ſeemingly unavoidable, that I even gave up hope, that laſt conſolation of all the wretched, and prepared for an immediate launch into the dreadful gulph of eternity. Providence, however, thought proper to diſpoſe of me otherwiſe; and everlaſting thanks to it's infinite mercy, I am ſtill alive to labour for the advancement of my little family.

To this period of my relation I have been able to proceed circumſtantially from a reference to my journal. — The remainder, as I grew from this time utterly unable to hold a pen, muſt be collected from my memory, and from memorandums which I made at intervals with chalk, of the moſt remarkable occurrences. — The reader will recollect, that the laſt morſel of meat that we taſted

was

was our cat on the 26th of December.—On the 13th of January following, being ſtill toſſed about at the diſcretion of the ſea and wind, — my mate, at the head of all the people, came to me in the cabbin, half drunk indeed, but with looks ſo full of horror, as partly indicated the nature of their dreadful purpoſe, and informed me, "that they could hold out "no longer,—that their tobacco was en-"tirely exhauſted; that they had eaten "up all the leather belonging to the pump, "—and even the buttons off their jackets, "that now they had no chance in nature "but to caſt lots, and to ſacrifice one of "themſelves for the preſervation of the "reſt, they therefore expected my con-"currence to the meaſure, and deſired me "to favour them with an immediate de-"termination."

PERCEIVING them in liquor I endeavoured to ſooth them from their purpoſe as well as I could; begged they would retire

to

to reſt, and that in caſe Providence did not interpoſe in their favour by the next morning we would conſult farther on the ſubject. — Inſtead of regarding my requeſt, however, they ſwore, with a determined horror of execration, that what was to be done, muſt be done immediately ; and that it was indifferent to them whether I acquieſed or not ; for although they had been ſo kind as to acquaint me with their reſolution, they would oblige me to take my chance as well as another man, ſince the general misfortune had levelled all diſtinction of perſons.

As I had long expected ſome violence to myſelf, from the exceſſes of their intoxication, I had, for ſome time, taken to my arms, to prevent a ſurprize ; — but, alas ! this was an idle precaution, as I was by no means able to repel force by force : — finding them, therefore, ſtill deaf to my remonſtrances, I told them they might purſue their own courſe, but

that

that I would on no account either give orders for the death of the perſon on whom the lot might fall, nor partake, by any means, of ſo ſhocking a repaſt. — To this they anſwered, that they would not aſk my conſent to ſlaughter the victim; and, as to eating or not eating, I might juſt follow the biaſs of my own inclination. — So ſaying they left me, and went into the ſteerage, — but in a few minutes came back, informing me, that they had each taken a chance for their lives, and that the lot had fallen on a negro, who was part of my cargo. — The little time taken to caſt the lot, and the private manner of conducting the deciſion, gave me ſome ſtrong ſuſpicions that the poor Ethiopian was not altogether treated fairly; — but, on recollection, I almoſt wondered that they had given him even the appearance of an equal chance with themſelves. — The miſerable Black, however, well-knowing his fate was at hand, and ſeeing one of the fellows loading a

piſtol

piſtol to diſpatch him, ran to me begging I would endeavour to ſave his life. — Unfortunately for him I was totally without power. — They therefore dragged him into the ſteerage, where, in leſs than two minutes, they ſhot him through the head. — They ſuffered him to lye but a very little time before they ripped him open, intending to fry his entrails for ſupper, there being a large fire made ready for the purpoſe; — but one of the foremaſt-men, whoſe name was James Campbell, being ravenouſly impatient for food, tore the liver from the body, and devoured it raw as it was, notwithſtanding the fire at his hand where it could be immediately dreſſed. — The unhappy man paid dear for ſuch an extravagant impatience, for in three days after de died raving mad, and was, the morning of his death, thrown overboard, — the ſurvivors, greatly as they wiſhed to preſerve his body, being fearful of ſharing his fate, if they ventured to

make

make as free with him, as with the unfortunate negro. — But to return,

THE black affording my people a luxurious banquet, they were buſy the principal part of the night in feaſting on him, and did not retire to reſt till two in the morning. — About eight o'clock next day, the mate came to aſk my orders, relative to the pickling the body, an inſtance of brutality which ſhocked me ſo much, that I graſped a piſtol, and muſtering all the ſtrength I was maſter of, I ſwore unleſs he inſtantly quitted the cabbin, I would ſend him after the negro. — Seeing me determined, he withdrew, — but muttered, as he went out, that the proviſion ſhould be taken care of without my advice, and that he was ſorry he had applied to me, ſince I was no longer conſidered as maſter of the ſhip. — Accordingly he called a council, where it was unanimouſly agreed, to cut the body into

ſmall pieces, and to pickle it; after chopping off the head and fingers, which they threw overboard, by common conſent.

THREE or four days after, as they were ſtewing and frying ſome ſtakes, as they called the ſlices which they cut from the poor negro (for they ſtewed theſe ſlices firſt in wine, and afterwards either fryed or broiled them, I could hear them) ſay, "Damn him, though "he would not conſent to our having "any meat, let us give him ſome;" and immediately one of them came into the cabbin, and offered me a ſtake. — I refuſed the tender with indignation, and deſired the perſon who brought it, at his peril to make the offer a ſecond time. — In fact the conſtant expectation of death, joined to the miſerable ſtate to which I was reduced, through ſickneſs and fatigue, to ſay nothing of my horror at the food with which I was preſented,

entirely

entirely took away my deſire of eating. — Add alſo to this, that the ſtench of their ſtewing and frying, threw me into an abſolute fever, and that this fever was aggravated by a ſtrong ſcurvy and a violent ſwellng in my legs.—Sinking under ſuch an accumulated load of afflictions, and being, moreover, fearful, if I cloſed my eyes, that they would ſurprize and murder me for their next ſupply, it is no wonder that I loſt all reliſh for ſuſtenance. — In reality, it would have been wonderful, had I preſerved the leaſt, and therefore my abſtinence is not altogether ſo meritorius a circumſtance.

NOTWITHSTANDING the exceſſes into which my people ran, they nevertheleſs huſbanded the negro's carcaſe with the ſevereſt œconomy, and ſtinted themſelves to an allowance which made it laſt for many days. — But when it was nearly expended, I could hear them

frequently conſulting among one another, on the moſt expedient courſe to provide another ſupply. — The reſult of all theſe determinations, was to deſtroy me, before they ran any riſque of deſtroying themſelves. — The reader will naturally ſuppoſe, that if I ſlept little before I received any poſitive knowledge of their intention, I ſlept ſtill leſs, when I became acquainted with their deſigns. — In proportion as the negro grew leſs, ſo in proportion my apprehenſions were encreaſed, and every meal which they ſat down to, I conſidered as a freſh approach to deſtruction.

In this manner matters went on, till the 28th or 29th of January, — when the mate, with more generoſity than I could well expect, from the nature of their late private conſultations, came to me again at the head of the people, ſaying, that the negro had for ſome days been entirely eaten up, and as no

veſſel

veſſel had yet appeared, to give us the moſt diſtant glimmer of relief, there was a neceſſity for caſting lots again ; — ſince it was better to die ſeparately than all at once. — They alſo told me that they did not doubt but what I was now hungry, and would of courſe take my chance with them, as I had before done, when my ſituation was infinitly leſs deſperate. — I again attempted to argue with them, and obſerved that the poor negro's death had done them no ſervice, as they were as greedy and as emaciated as ever. — I therefore adviced them to ſubmit to the diſpenſations of Providence with temper, and offered to pray with them for an immediate relief, or an immediate eternity. — The anſwer which they gave to this, was, that they were now hungry, and muſt have ſomething to eat ; and therefore it was no time to pray ; and if I did not inſtantly conſent to caſt lots, they would inſtantly proceed without me.

FINDING them thus inflexible, and having but too much reaſon to ſuſpect ſome foul proceedings unleſs I became a principal agent in the affair, I made a ſhift to riſe up in my bed, ordered pen, ink, and paper, and called them all into the cabbin. — There were ſeven of us now left; and the lots were drawn in the ſame manner as the tickets are drawn for a lottery at Guildhall. — The lot, indeed, did not fall on me, but it fell on one David Flatt, a foremaſtman, the only man in the ſhip on whom I could place any certain dependance. — The ſhock of the deciſion was great; and the preparations for execution were dreadful. — The fire already blazed in the ſteerage, and every thing was prepared for ſacrificing the wretched victim immediately. — A profound ſilence for ſome time took poſſeſſion of the whole company, and would poſſibly have continued longer had not the unhappy victim himſelf, who appeared

quite

quite reſigned, delivered himſelf to the following effect: — "My dear friends, "meſſmates, and fellow ſufferers, all I "have to beg of you is to diſpatch me as "ſoon as you did the negro, and to put "me to as little torture as you can:" then turning to one James Doud (the man who ſhot the negro) "It is my deſire, ſays "he, that you ſhould ſhoot me."--Doud readily, yet reluctantly, aſſented. — The unhappy victim then begged a ſmall time to prepare himſelf for death: — to which his companions very chearfully agreed, and even ſeemed at firſt unwilling to inſiſt upon his forfeit life, as he was greatly reſpected by the whole ſhip's company. — A few draughts of wine, however, ſoon ſuppreſſed theſe dawnings of humanity; nevertheleſs, to ſhew their regard, they conſented to let him live till eleven the next morning, in hopes that the Divine goodneſs would, in the mean time, raiſe up ſome other ſource of relief; — at the ſame time they begged of me to read

prayers,

prayers, promiſing to join me with the utmoſt fervency.--I was greatly pleaſed with this motion, — and though but little able to go through a taſk of that kind, I exerted all my ſtrength, and had the ſatisfaction to obſerve, that they behaved with tollerable decency.

FATIGUED with reading ſo much, I lay down almoſt ready to faint, yet could hear the whole ſhip's company talking to the wretched Flatt; hoping that the Deity would interpoſe for his preſervation; and aſſuring him, though they never yet could catch or even ſee a fiſh, they would at day-break put out all their hooks again to try if any thing could be caught to mitigate their diſtreſſes, or to avert the ſeverity of his ſentence. — Unhappily, however, the poor fellow, unable to ſtand the ſhock of his deſtiny, grew aſtoniſhingly deaf by midnight, and was quite delirious by four in the morning. — His meſſmates diſcovering this alteration, debated whether it would

would not be an act of humanity to dispatch him immediately: — but the first resolution to spare him till eleven, visibly preponderating, they all retired to rest, except the person who was to take care of the fire. In all their excesses they were sensible of what importance it was to preserve the fire, and therefore never went to bed without leaving a centinel to keep it up.

About eight o'clock the next morning, as I was ruminating in my cabbin on the approaching fate of the poor fellow, who had now but three hours to live, two of my people came hastily down, with looks full of the strongest expectation, and seizing my hands, without saying a syllable, gave me no little apprehension that they intended to postpone his fate for some time, and to sacrifice me in his stead: — I was the more confirmed in this opinion, as the unhappy man still continued out of his senses, and on that account might be judg-

ed improper ſuſtenance ; eſpecially as notwithſtanding all their neceſſities, they threw Campbell overboard through a fear of catching his infection. — Fraught with a notion of this nature, I diſengaged myſelf as well as I was able, and ſnatching up one of my piſtols, reſolved to ſell my life as dearly as I could. — The poor men, gueſſing at my miſtake, with ſome difficulty told me, that their behaviour was not the effect of any ill intention, but the actual conſequence of their joy, — that they had deſcried a ſail to the leeward, which appeared to be a large veſſel, and that ſhe ſeemed to ſtand for us in as fair a direction as we could poſſibly wiſh. — The reſt of the crew came down immediately after their companions, and confirmed the report of a ſail, but with this material difference, that ſhe ſeemed to bear off upon quite a contrary courſe.

It is impoſſible to deſcribe the exceſs of my tranſport upon hearing that there was a ſail at any rate in ſight — my joy, in a manner,

manner, overpowered me ; and it was not without the utmoſt exertion of my ſtrength that I deſired them to uſe every expedition in making a ſignal of diſtreſs. — Our veſſel, indeed, itſelf was a moſt ſtriking ſignal ; but as there was a poſſibility for the ſhip in view to ſuppoſe that there was not a living creature on board, I judged it abſolutely expedient to prevent the likelihood of ſo dreadful a miſtake. — My poor men found my orders now ſo eſſential to their own preſervation, that I was obeyed with all imaginable alacrity, and had frequently the inexpreſſible happineſs to hear them jumping on the deck, and crying out, " ſhe nighs us ; ſhe nighs " us ; ſhe is ſtanding this way." — The ſhip coming viſibly nearer and nearer, my people now began to think of their unfortunate meſſmate Flatt, who was, however, utterly unable to receive any account of the deliverance which was ſo happily at hand : — nevertheleſs, in the midſt of all their ſympathy for his ſituation, they pro-

poſed a can of joy; — and it was with the greateſt difficulty that I could prevail on them to acknowledge the ſtrong impropriety of ſuch a motion in their preſent circumſtances. — I obſerved that if they appeared any way diſguiſed with liquor the ſhip might probably decline to take us on board; and endeavoured to convince them that their deliverance in a very great meaſure depended upon the regularity of this moment's behaviour. — My remonſtrances had ſome effect, — and all but my mate, who had for a conſiderable time abandoned himſelf to a brutality of intoxication, very prudently poſtponed ſo untimely an inſtance of indulgence.

AFTER continuing for a conſiderable time, eagerly obſerving the progreſs of the veſſel, and undergoing the moſt tumultuous agitation that could be created by ſo trying a ſuſpence, we had at laſt, the happineſs to ſee a boat drop aſtern, and row towards us full manned, with a very vigo-

rous

rous diſpatch. — It was now quite calm, yet, the impatience with which we expected the arrival of the boat was incredible; the numberleſs diſappointments we had met in the courſe of our unfortunate voyage, filled us with an apprehenſion of ſome new accident that might fruſtrate all our hopes, and plunge us again into an aggravated diſtreſs. — Life and death ſeemed, in ſhort, to ſit upon every ſtroke of the oar; and as we ſtill conſidered ourſelves tottering on the very verge of eternity, the conflict between our wiſhes and our fears may be eaſily ſuppoſed by a reader of imagination. — The boat, at length, came along-ſide: but our appearance was ſo ghaſtly that the men reſted upon their oars, and, with looks of inconceivable aſtoniſhment, demanded what we were. — Having ſatisfied them in this point, they immediately came on board, and begged we would uſe the utmoſt expedition in quitting our miſerable wreck, leſt they ſhould be overtaken by any gale before

they

they were able to recover their ſhip ; — at the ſame time ſeeing me totally incapable of getting into the boat without aſſiſtance, they provided ropes, by which I was quickly let down, and my people followed me, I need not, I believe, obſerve, with all the alacrity they poſſeſſed.

We were now juſt preparing to ſet off, when one of my people cried out that the mate was ſtill on board. — In the general hurry every man's attention was engaged by the thought of his own preſervation, and it was almoſt a matter of wonder that any body remembered the abſence of the mate. — He was, however, immediately called to, and, after ſome time, came to the gunnel, in a ſeeming aſtoniſhment, at ſuch a number of people, the can of joy, with which he had been buſy, having completely eraſed every idea of the preceding occurrences from his recollection. — Having got him into the boat, we inſtantly

put

put off, and in about an hour came up to the ſhip, which was rather better than two miles from our wreck, and we were received with a humanity on board, that did the higheſt honour imaginable to the character of the captain. — When we came along ſide, he, together with his paſſengers and people, were upon deck, from an equal mixture of compaſſion and curioſity, — but our hollow eyes, ſhrivelled cheeks, long beards, and ſquallid complexions, had ſuch an effect upon them, that the captain himſelf abſolutely ſhook with horror, as he was politely leading me to his cabbin, and generouſly thanking God for being made the inſtrument of my deliverance.

BEFORE I proceed farther, it is neceſſary to inform the reader of the perſon to whoſe benignity my people and I were indebted for our preſervation. — His name is THOMAS EVERS, — he commands the ſhip Suſanna, in the

Virginia

Virginia trade, and was now returning from VIRGINIA to LONDON; to the latter of which places his veſſel belongs.

I HAD no ſooner got on board the Suſanna, than dropping on my knees againſt a hencoop on the deck, I poured out my ſoul in a ſtrain of the ſincereſt gratitude to the great Author of all things for the abundance of his mercy, and in the fulneſs of my heart began alſo to expreſs my ſenſibility to the captain for his readineſs to aſſiſt the diſtreſſed; but it was much eaſier for the generous EVERS to perform fifty good actions, than to hear the juſt applauſe of one. — He begged I would be ſilent on the ſubject, at leaſt for that time, — adviſed me to take a little reſt, and promiſed, if the weather proved any way moderate, he would lye by my wreck the whole night, and try if there was not a poſſibility to ſave ſome of my cloaths, aſſuring me at the ſame time, that my people ſhould be treated with every neceſſary attention.

I WAS

I WAS now on board for three or four days when I found ſome little inclination to eat: — the reſt which I had taken during that interval giving me ſome diſtant dawnings of an appetite, I therefore hinted my deſire to the captain, who had repeatedly applied to me from my firſt arrival to take a little food, and he immediately ordered ſome ſego to be dreſſed, of which I ate, without finding any reliſh whatever, my taſte being rendered inſenſible, as I apprehend, from ſo long a diſcontinuance of ſuſtenance. — Next day I had a little chicken broth, which agreed tolerably well with the weakneſs of my ſtomach; — but having an occaſion for a particular indulgence of nature, I thought I ſhould have expired in performing it, — the pain it gave me was excruciating to the laſt degree, and the parts were ſo contracted having never been once employed for a ſpace of thirty-ſix or thirty ſeven days, that I almoſt began to deſpair re-

ſtoring them to their neceſſary operations. — I was, however, at laſt relieved by the diſcharge of a callous lump about the ſize of a hen's egg, and enjoyed a tranquility of body, notwithſtanding all my diſorders, with which I was utterly unacquainted for ſome preceding weeks.

The undeviating tenderneſs which my worthy friend, the captain, ſhewed to every thing which concerned my caſe, or tended to the recovery of my health, in a ſhort time made me able to crawl upon deck by myſelf, though at firſt I could by no means face the wind: — the air, however, did me incredible ſervice, and I continued daily increaſing in my ſtrength when a freſhcalamity ſeemed ready to involve us, and threatened not only to fall upon my people and myſelf, but, in ſome meaſure, through our means, upon the worthy captain Evers, his paſſengers, and ſhip's company. — The Suſanna, it ſeems, a few days before ſhe took me up, had been attacked by a hard gale of wind, in which,

ſhipping

ſhipping a heavy ſea, they loſt four hogs, four or five hogſheads of freſh water, forty or fifty head of fowls, and twenty or thirty geeſe and turkies: — ſhe had alſo loſt her caboofe and copper, and, in ſhort, had ſuffered not a little, although, to the infinite credit of her commander, theſe misfortunes did not occaſion the leaſt diminution of his humanity, when he was called to by the voice of diſtreſs. — Theſe loſſes, together with the unexpected addition of ſeven perſons, and a long ſeries of very bad weather, obliged the captain to ſet all hands to an allowance, which was eſtabliſhed at two pounds and a half of bread per week, a quart of water, and half a pound of ſalt proviſions, a day for each man on board. — In this ſituation, with a head wind, and the pumps continually at work, his ſhip being very leakey, we began to keep as good a look out as poſſible in hopes of meeting with ſome veſſel which might oblige us with a ſalutary ſupply of proviſions. — No veſſel, however, encountered

us, but a Frenchman from Cape FRANCOIS, who ſtood as much in want of neceſſaries as ourſelves. — Nevertheleſs, about the firſt or ſecond of March we happily reached the LAND'S END, and took in a pilot, who hailed us off DARTMOUTH, came on board, and carried the ſhip into that harbour: — there the captain and the paſſengers went on ſhore, and gave me a moſt cordial congratulation on my arrival. One circumſtance I had almoſt forgot; though it was to me a very material one. — After I had gained a little ſtrength on board the Suſanna, I thought I might meſs in common with the captain and paſſengers, but indulging myſelf rather too freely on a roaſted turkey, it threw me into a fever; at which the good-natured captain was ſo much affected, that he took upon himſelf the office both of phyſician and nurſe, and kept me under a proper reſtraint in my food during the remainder of our voyage.

THE

THE next day my inconſiderate mate, Mr. Archibald Nicolſon, who had ſo long wallowed, as I may ſay, in every mire of exceſs, having reduced himſelf, by a continued intoxication, to ſuch a ſtate, that no proper ſuſtenance would ſtay on his ſtomach, fell a martyr to his inebriety; having a watch and ſome trinkets about him, which defrayed the expence of his funeral, he was decently interred. — As to the reſt of my people, the unhappy Flatt ſtill continued out of his ſenſes, and there were but two of the whole ſix in a condition to do any duty from the time of our being taken up by captain EVERS till our arrival at DARTMOUTH.

WHILE we lay here the governor, Mr. ARTHUR HOLDSWORTH, treated me with remarkable civility, ſending Mr. Stapleton, his ſecretary, on board with a deſire of ſeeing me.—I immediately accepted of his polite invitation, and, after dinner, he generouſly

nerouſly offered to furniſh me with money, or any thing I might want for my journey to LONDON.--The worthy captain EVERS had rendered every aſſiſtance of this nature unneceſſary, ſo that I declined his offer with a proper acknowledgment. — Captain EVERS having by this time ſent in a proper ſupply of proviſions, we ſet ſail for the DOWNS that evening. — On our arrival here the captain, who was a RAMSGATE man, and had ſeveral near relations at that place, took me aſhore with him, on a viſit to his friends, who received me with every mark of good-nature and cordiality. — We ſtaid at RAMSGATE two days, and then took a poſt-chaiſe to MARGATE ROADS, with an intent of meeting the ſhip; but the pilot, having a freſh wind, had taken her by; on which we proceeded to CANTERBURY, where we lay that night, and the next morning ſet out in the machine for LONDON.

As I had insured at NEW-YORK I thought it necessary, for the interest of my owners, to lodge a Protest for their indemnity. — Accordingly, on my arrival at LONDON I had recourse to a Notary Public for that purpose, and have here inserted the papers and attestations which were consequently drawn up, as a proof of the principal circumstances which I have mentioned in the foregoing narrative. — I am now returning to NEW-YORK, in the ship Hope, captain BENJAMIN DAVIS; where I shortly hope the goodness which I have already experienced at the hand of Providence will be crowned by a joyful meeting of my wife and family.

COPIA.

COPIA.

BY THIS PUBLIC INSTRUMENT of Declaration and Proteſt, Be it known and manifeſted unto all thoſe who ſhall ſee theſe preſents, or hear the ſame read, That on this day, the firſt of April, One thouſand, ſeven hundred, and ſixty-ſix, before me Robert Shank, Notary and Tabellion, public dwelling in LONDON, by Royal Authority, duly admitted and ſworn, perſonally appeared Mr. DAVID HARRISON, late maſter of the good ſloop or veſſel, called the Peggy, who declared, That being with his ſaid ſloop, at FYAL, loaden with wines, brandy, and one negro ſlave or black man, he ſet ſail from thence the twenty-fourth day of October now laſt paſt, bound for NEW-YORK, that in proſecution of his ſaid voyage, on the fourth of November following, being in the latitude of 38 d. 2 m. and longitude 52 d. 3 m. Weſt

from

from LONDON, he was overtaken with a violent hard gale of wind at North Weſt, which ſplit the mainſail, under which ſhe was lying too, and obliged him to bend a ſpare one he had then on board: That on the ſixth following, by the violence of another hard gale of wind, two ſhrouds of each ſide his maſt were carried away, which cauſed the appearer to get up two runners and tackles for the ſupport of the maſt: That on the ſixteenth following, in latitude of 39 d. 41 m. North and longitude 55 d. 13 m. Weſt from LONDON, there came on terrible hard gales of wind from the South South-Eaſt, attended with a large ſea, by means whereof the ſquare ſail head was carried away and tore to pieces, and obliged the appearer to heave too under a ballanced main-ſail; and notwithſtanding the jib was well ſecured on the bowſprit with points, ſtill, by the violence of the wind, they all blew up, and the ſail was ſhattered to pieces: That on the firſt of December

alſo following, in the latitude of 40 d. 1 m. North, and longitude 58 d. 37 m. Weſt from LONDON, he was again overtaken with other violent hard gales of wind at Weſt North Weſt, with a large growing ſea, which broke two of the main chain-plates, ſplit the fore-ſail all to pieces, and by the ſloop's labouring and ſtraining, cauſed her to be very leakey, and obliged the appearer to lay her too under a ballanced main-ſail: That on the twenty-eighth of the ſame month, after having met with ſundry hard gales of wind from the Weſt by North, to the North-Weſt, he came into the latitude of 42 d. 5 m. North, and longitude 62 d. 43 m. Weſt from LONDON, the wind came on to blow very terrible at North-Weſt and by North, and the ſea very turbulent, his ſloop became very leakey, and the violence of the wind increaſing, the main-ſail (being the only ſail he had then left) was blown from the boom and gaff, and the proviſions of all ſorts being entirely exhauſted, the

ſloop

ſloop became a perfect wreck, toſſed about at the mercy of the winds and weather, and the appearer and his crew periſhing for want of the neceſſaries of life: That on or about the thirteenth of January following, after having kept conſtantly pumping, the ſloop being very leakey, poſſeſſed of no kind of ſail to ſpread, and enable him to make for any port whatſoever, himſelf and crew ſtarving, and no kind of aſſiſtance appearing, they (that is to ſay) the crew, came to a reſolution, rather than all ſhould periſh for want of ſubſiſtance, to caſt lots for one to die amongſt them, to ſupport the reſt; and, in purſuance of ſuch their reſolution, intimated to this appearer, that he muſt bear his lot amongſt them; and preſently after (as this appearer was informed, he being ill in his cabbin) the lot fell upon the negro ſlave or black man, which had been part of his cargo out from NEW-YORK, and was returning there, not having been ſold at FYAL,

who, in a ſhort time, was killed, and his ſaid crew fed upon him for ſeveral days afterwards: And, on the twenty-ninth following, being almoſt famiſhed, they reſolved to kill another among the ſloop's company, to endeavour to ſupport themſelves, untill the Almighty ſhould bring ſome veſſel to their relief, and intimated ſuch their reſolution to the appearer for him to bear his lot amongſt them, which having drawn, the melancholy chance fell on David Flatt, a ſeaman on board, whom they required to prepare for death by eleven o'clock the next day: But the next morning he became deaf and inſenſible, and previous to that appointed hour, to wit, about nine o'clock in the forenoon, of the thirtieth of January laſt, of the preſent year, one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſixty-ſix, they perceived a ſail, the captain whereof humanely came towards them in the latitude of 39 d. 24 m. North, and longitude 45 d. 24 m. Weſt from LONDON,

but

but the wind falling calm he ſent his boat on board to ſee if any one was living, when the appearer, and the remainder of his crew, being ſeven perſons in all (excluſive of the ſad black who had been killed, and one JAMES CAMBELL, a ſeaman, who died in three days after eating part of the ſaid black's liver raw) were carried in her on board the ſaid ſhip, which appeared to be the Suſanna, captain THOMAS EVERS, bound from VIRGINIA to LONDON, who received them very kindly on board; but as this appearer's ſaid ſloop Peggy was an intire wreck, very leakey, and deſtitute of proviſions, yards, ſails and ſtanding rigging (having only one ſhroud of each ſide the maſt left) ſo that there was no poſſibility of ſaving her and her cargo, they intirely quitted her, and the wind came on to blow very hard the following night, according to all probability, ſhe, together with her cargo, muſt have gone to the bottom, and been totally loſt: That the appearer, and the reſidue of his ſaid ſloop's

crew

crew continued on board the ſaid ſhip Suſanna in her then intended further proſecution of her voyage; in the courſe whereof, by means of the great fatigue they had ſuſtained, and the hardſhips they had undergone, three of his ſaid ſloop's crew, to wit, Archibald Nicolſon, mate, and James Doud, and John Warner, ſeamen, died in the paſſage, ſo that there only remained the appearer himſelf, Lemuel Aſhley, Samuel Wentworth, and the before-mentioned David Flatt, who arrived alive; and now, upon his, the appearer's firſt arrival here, he, for his own juſtification, declared to proteſt, as by theſe preſents I, the ſaid Notary, at his requeſt do hereby ſolemnly proteſt, that all damage, loſs, detriment, and prejudice, that ſhall, or may have happened, for, or by reaſon or means of the total loſs of his before-mentioned ſloop Peggy and her cargo; or the killing of the before-mentioned negro ſlave, or black man, who compoſed a part of her cargo, is, and ought to be, borne by the

merchants,

merchants, freighters, and others intereſted therein ; the ſame having accrued in manner herein before particularly ſet forth, and not by or through any neglect, default, concurrence, direction, or miſmanagement of him, the appearer, or any of his mariners, who ſeverally did, to the utmoſt of their power, for the preſervation of the ſaid ſloop and her cargo ; nor was it by or through any other reaſon or motive, that his ſaid crew killed the before-mentioned negro, than dire neceſſity, and to prevent the reſt of them from periſhing through hunger and want, after the whole of the proviſions were expended, through a long and tedious paſſage, occaſioned by the tempeſtuouſneſs of the winds and weather, which had deprived the appearer of every means poſſible, even to attempt to put into any port or place whatſoever for relief, although, at the time of her departure from FYAL aforeſaid, ſhe was tight, ſtaunch, and ſtrong, and had her hatches well and ſufficiently ſecured, her

cargo

cargo well ſtowed, and being manned, provided, and properly furniſhed with proviſions, ſtores, and neceſſary appurtenances, ſhe thereby became ſea-worthy, and, in all reſpects, fitted and completed, for ſuch a ſloop and voyage, whereof an act being required of me the ſaid Notary, I have granted theſe preſents under my Notarial Firm and Seal of Office, to ſerve and avail where needful. Thus done and paſſed in LONDON aforeſaid, in the preſence of the under-written witneſſes.

Witneſſes, DAVID HARRISON.
WM. CROFTS, In Teſtimonium veritatis
DAVID ELIAS, ROB. SHANK, Not. Pub.
1766.

L. S.

DAVID HARRISON, late commander of the good ſloop or veſſel called the PEGGY, and THOMAS EVERS, commander of the good ſhip or veſſel called the Suſannah, jointly, and ſeverally, make

make oath, and JOHN WHINNEY, late a paſſenger on board the ſaid ſhip Suſanna, being one of the people called Quakers, ſolemnly affirmeth as follows, to wit, and firſt the ſaid DAVID HARRISON, for himſelf depoſes and ſays, that the contents of the aforegoing Declaration or Proteſt, made and ſigned by him this deponent, DAVID HARRISON, is juſt and true in every article thereof, as God ſhall help him, this deponent. And the ſaid THOMAS EVERS and JOHN WHINNEY, for themſelves ſay, that on the thirtieth day of January laſt paſt, being at ſea on board the above-mentioned ſhip Suſanna, in the latitude of 39 d. 24 m. North, and longitude 45 d. 24 m. Weſt from LONDON, they fell in with a wreck ſloop, for which they made ſail; but the wind falling calm, the ſaid THOMAS EVERS ſent his boat on board to ſee if there was any one alive in her, which boat ſoon after returned with ſeven perſons in her, being the deponent, DAVID HARRISON, and ſix of the crew belonging to the ſaid

wreck, which appeared to be the ſloop Peggy, bound from FYAL for NEW-YORK with a cargo of wine and brandy, having been at ſea ninty-nine days, and was then without a morſel of proviſions on board, without any ſail to ſpread, or any ſtanding rigging over the maſt (except one ſhroud on each ſide) was very leakey, and the crew ſo weak as to render them incapable of pumping, or doing any duty on board, ſo that ſhe muſt have ſunk in ſhort time, and as the wind blew very hard the following night, according to all probability, ſhe and her cargo went to the bottom and were all loſt.

Sworn this 14th day of April,
1766, by the ſaid David
Harriſon and Thomas Evers,
and affirmed by the ſaid John
Whinney, before me
GEO. NELSON, Mayor.

DAVID HARRISON.
THOMAS EVERS,
JOHN WHINNEY.

THE

THE aforegoing is a true, faithful, literal, and exact copy of it's original, paſſed before me the under-written Notary, and ſworn to by DAVID HARRISON and THOMAS EVERS, and affirmed to by JOHN WHINNEY therein named, before the Right Hon. GEORGE NELSON, Eſq. Lord Mayor, and one of his Majeſty's Juſtices of the Peace for this city of LONDON; and after duly examining and colating theſe preſents therewith, and finding them ſo to agree in every particular, I atteſt the ſame in conformity, whereof an act being required of me the ſaid Notary, I have granted theſe preſents, under my Notarial Firm and Seal of Office, to ſerve and avail as occaſion may be or require. Done in LONDON this 14th day of April, 1766.

ROB. SHANK, Not. Pub.

1766.

COPIA.

DAVID HARRISON, late maſter of the good ſloop or veſſel called the Peggy, maketh oath upon the Holy Evangeliſts of Almighty God; That being with his ſaid ſloop at FYAL he there received on board her a cargo of merchandize, conſiſting of twenty pipes of brandy, ſeventy-three pipes of wine, in pipes, half pipes, and quarter caſks, and one negro ſlave, or black man; the caſks of brandy and wine being marked with the mark A. M. and the negro, or black, called or named Wiltſhire (and had been part of this deponent's latter cargo from NEW-YORK, for FYAL, but was returning from thence not having been there ſold) with which cargo he was bound, with his ſaid ſloop, from FYAL aforeſaid for NEW-YORK, and accordingly departed in the proſecution of his ſaid voyage, on the twenty-fourth day of October laſt paſt, 1765;

but

but in the proſecution of his ſaid intended voyage, on the thirtieth day of January following, and alſo laſt paſt, in or about the latitude of 39 d. 24 m. North, and and longitude 45 d. 24 m. Weſt from LONDON, after having exhauſted all his proviſions, his ſails and rigging blown to pieces and gone; and his ſaid ſloop having become very leakey, this deponent, and the remainder of his crew, being ſeven perſons, were miraculouſly preſerved and taken from on board the ſaid ſloop Peggy, on board the ſhip Suſanna, whereof THOMAS EVERS was commander; and as the wind came to blow very hard the following night, his ſaid ſloop Peggy, together with her cargo, herein before enumerated; according to all probability, went to the bottom that night, and were totally loſt. And this deponent further depoſeth and ſaith, that his ſaid ſloop's cargo was ſo ſhipped at FYAL aforeſaid, by Meſſrs. Gaythorn and Graham,

merchants

merchants there, who had bills of lading for the ſame, and who did ſend their papers letters, and diſpatches to this deponent, directed to Meſſrs. William Malcom, and John Alexander and company, the conſignees of the ſaid cargo at NEW-YORK; and this deponent ſaith, that the ſaid papers, letters, and diſpatches were put up by him into his own cheſt; but being taken out of his ſaid ſloop in a very great hurry, he had not time to take the ſame thereout, ſo that the ſaid papers, letters, and diſpatches, together with this deponents ſaid cheſt, and all and ſingular his own papers and appurtenances were (according to the beſt of this deponent's knowledge and belief) totally loſt in and with his ſaid ſloop Peggy and her cargo.

Sworn this 15th day
of April, 1766, be- DAVID HARRISON.
fore me in LONDON.

GEORGE NELSON, Mayor.

THE

THE aforegoing is a true, faithful, literal, and exact copy of it's original, ſworn by the deponent DAVID HARRISON, before the Right Hon. GEORGE NELSON, Eſq. Lord Mayor, and one of his Majeſty's Juſtices of the Peace for this city of LONDON; and after duly examining and colating theſe preſents therewith, and finding them ſo to agree in every particular, I atteſt the ſame in conformity, whereof an act being required of me the ſaid Notary, I have granted theſe preſents under my Notorial Firm and Seal of Office, to ſerve and avail where needful. Done in LONDON, this 15th day of April, 1766.

ROB. SHANK, Not. Pub.

1766.

COPIA

COPIA.

THIS is to certify whom it may concern, That on the Thirtieth day of January, 1766. in the latitude 39 d. 24 m. North, and in the longitude 45 d. 24 m. Weſt from LONDON, I fell in with a wreck ſloop, made ſail for her, but falling calm, ſent my boat on board in order to ſee if any body was alive; ſhe returned with ſeven perſons, being the captain and reſidue of the crew; ſhe proved to be the ſloop Peggy, DAVID HARRISON, commander, from FYAL bound to NEW-YORK, had been at ſea ninety-nine days, not a morſel of proviſions on board, not a yard of canvaſs to ſpread, and no ſtanding rigging over the maſt, having only one ſhroud of a ſide, very leakey, and the crew not being able to pump, ſhe muſt have ſunk in

a ſhort

a ſhort time, (that next night blowing a very hard gale of wind) unleſs ſome veſſel fortunately fell in with her. The cargo conſiſted of wine, and brandy, which was all loſt with her, and nothing being ſaved.

Atteſted by us, THOMAS EVERS.
FRANCIS M'LEAN.
JOHN WHINNEY,
Paſſenger on board the Suſanna.

THE aforegoing is a true, faithful, literal, and exact copy of it's original, granted and ſigned by Captain THOMAS EVERS, commander of the good ſhip or veſſel called the Suſanna; FRANCIS M'LEAN, chief mate thereof, and JOHN WHINNEY, late a paſſenger in the ſaid ſhip; the which ſaid THOMAS EVERS and JOHN WHINNEY, on the day of the date hereof, perſonally came and appeared before me the underwritten

Notary, and ſolemnly and ſincerely declared, that the contents thereof were, in every reſpect, true. In Teſtimony whereof I have granted theſe preſents, under my Notorial Firm and Seal of Office, this 14th day of April, 1766.

In Teſtimonium Veritatis
ROB. SHANK, Not. Pub.
1766.

COPY

COPY of a LETTER from Meſſrs. GAYTHORN and GRAHAM, Merchants in FYAL, to Mr. WILLIAM MALCOM, Merchant at NEW-YORK, dated October the 21ſt, 1765.

SIR,

WE forgot till our letters were ſealed to make any mention of Captain HARRISON; this will ſerve as a certificate of his prudent behaviour and induſtry, in every thing that concerns the owners whilſt here, and that if it had not been for the ſtormy weather we have had, the good diſpatch he gave on board, would have got him from this place much ſooner. We are very reſpectively,

SIR,

Your moſt obedient humble ſervants,

GAYTHORN and GRAHAM.

THE above letter was ſent me on board the day I ſailed, and remained with me in my pocket till the day I was taken up, which I hope may anſwer nearly the time I was out at ſea when taken up.

DAVID HARRISON.

FINIS.

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